



February 17, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **February 2 – February 17**.

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions may occur when there is emergency information or an event-specific update to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **March 2**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)

[COCA Home Page](#)

Topics and Highlights

[COCA News and Announcements](#)

[CDC Emergency Response](#)

[CDC News and Announcements](#)

[Public Health Preparedness](#)

[Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#)

[Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)

[Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease](#)

[Travel Safety](#)

[Food, Drug and Device Safety](#)

COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Calls:

Measles 2015: Situational Update, Clinical Guidance, and Vaccination Recommendations

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2015

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (EDT)

Dial In Number: 888-469-3090 (U.S. Callers); 517-308-9287 (International Callers)

Passcode: 3769846

Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW1605001&p=3769846&t=c>

From January 1 to February 6, 2015, 121 people from 17 states and Washington DC were reported to have measles. Most of these cases are part of a large, ongoing multi-state outbreak linked to an amusement park in California; however, unlinked importations continue to occur. The majority of the people who got measles were unvaccinated or did not know their vaccination status. This highly contagious, acute viral illness spreads quickly in unvaccinated populations, highlighting the importance of protecting children and adults against measles in the U.S. through vaccination. During this COCA call, clinicians will learn about the current measles situation in the US. In addition, they will learn about clinical guidelines for patient assessment and management, and age-appropriate vaccination recommendations for US residents including those who travel abroad.

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_021915.asp

Protecting Children: Influenza Updates for Clinicians

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (EDT)

Dial In Number: 888-810-4792 (U.S. Callers); 630-395-0368 (International Callers)

Passcode: 7545982

Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW1499499&p=7545982&t=c>

A recent analysis by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has found influenza A (H3N2) viruses are the predominant strain this year, and a little more than half of samples analyzed were found to be antigenically different (drifted) from the H3N2 vaccine strain. During this COCA Webinar, clinicians will learn about the current state of flu activity related to children, the importance of continued vaccination despite the mismatch and low vaccine effectiveness, and strategies for using antiviral therapy early to prevent and treat influenza.

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_022615.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp. Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response – CDC Response to 2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa

NEW: Emergency Department Ebola Preparedness Training Videos

CDC and the Johns Hopkins Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality and collaborated with numerous professional organizations to develop an Ebola Preparedness Training for emergency department personnel. Titled “Ebola Preparedness: Emergency Department Guidelines,” the training package consists of four video modules that supplement CDC’s recommended three-step strategy — identify, isolate and inform — for managing possible Ebola patients.

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvrp9iOILTQYRq0hM7_xkujywo3vmsAvX

NEW: Interim Recommendations for Influenza Vaccination and Post-exposure Chemoprophylaxis to Prevent Influenza Virus Infection in People Being Actively Monitored for Potential Ebola Virus Exposure

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/flu.html

Updated: Case Counts

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html

NEW: Preventing Ebola by Screening Travelers

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/screening-travelers.pdf

NEW: Q&A’s about the Transport of Pediatric Patients (< 18 years of age) Under Investigation or with Confirmed Ebola

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/emergency-services/transporting-pediatric-patients.html

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 6 – (CDC)

Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.

www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find preparedness resources for all hazards.

emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)

Find online and in-person training resources at

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html

February 13, 2015 / Vol. 64 / No. 5 [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)

- [Silicosis Mortality Trends and New Exposures to Respirable Crystalline Silica — United States, 2001–2010](#)
- [Addressing Needs of Contacts of Ebola Patients During an Investigation of an Ebola Cluster in the United States — Dallas, Texas, 2014](#)
- [Use of Group Quarantine in Ebola Control — Nigeria, 2014](#)
- [Implementation of a Statewide Surveillance System for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome — Tennessee, 2013](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

NEW: CDC and Partners Open Letter to Health Care Professionals Urging Protection from Influenza

CDC and partners jointly called on health care professionals to promptly treat young children and people age 65 and older with flu antiviral drugs.

www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/professionals/antiviral-letter-providers-2014-2015.pdf

NEW: CDC Algorithm for Evaluation of Patients with Possible Influenza

CDC has provided an algorithm for medical offices to use to evaluate patients for possible influenza over the telephone.

www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/office-evaluation.htm

What You Should Know for the 2014-2015 Influenza Season

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2014-2015.htm>

Information for Health Professionals

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm>

Weekly Flu View – February 17 (CDC)

Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC's Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)

Healthcare providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist healthcare providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – February 17 (U.S. Department of State)

The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings when the U.S. government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of State Department staff.

travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)

MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

Foodsafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.

www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

[Return to Top of Page](#)

The Healthcare Preparedness Activity in the Division of Strategic National Stockpile, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at

coca@cdc.gov

[CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page](#) – real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for health care providers

[COCA RSS Feed](#) – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training](#) – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication

[Health Alert Network](#) – CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories



CDC and HHS logos are the exclusive property of the Department of Health and Human Services and may not be used for any purpose without prior express written permission. Use of trade names and commercial sources is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Links to non-federal organizations are provided solely as a service to our users. Links do not constitute an endorsement of any organization by CDC or the federal government, and none should be inferred. CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organizations.

To **unsubscribe**, please send an email to coca@cdc.gov with “**unsubscribe**” in the subject line. CDC COCA Listserv unsubscribe link below is not active. Please email COCA to unsubscribe.